



**Urban Waters Partnership Meeting Minutes**  
**March 28, 2013 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Denver Water, Three Stones Building, Cheesman Room**  
**1600 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

***Mission: The South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership collaborates across jurisdictions and disciplines to engage communities, and to protect and restore the South Platte River and Watershed.***

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Who We Are** – Rusty Collins, Facilitator, CSU Extension

Devon Buckels welcomed the group and introduced Rusty Collins, Director of the Denver CSU Extension office, who led the group through a brief question and answer session. Results from this exercise is included along with this meeting summary.

**Where We Are: Context and Accomplishments.** Devon Buckels, Coordinator

Devon gave a short slide presentation updating the group on the history and purpose of the Urban Waters Partnership.

The project brings together federal agencies to support work being done by local communities on urban waterways. The EPA has launched 7 pilot projects, with the South Platte River from the headwaters through the Denver metro area being one of the pilots. The federal co-leads for this project are the US EPA Region 8 and the US Forest Service with assistance from the Colorado State Forest Service. There are over 40 supporting organizations including public, private and non-profit organizations, state agencies, municipalities, and NGOs. Devon recognized the hard work and accomplishments of the core team and the partners in getting the Partnership off the ground and thanked everyone for their efforts.

Devon showed a slide relating to the purpose of the group and how it will work together, and then a slide from last April's meeting last year titled "What Success Looks Like" with indicators for progress.

Devon reviewed the group's accomplishments, emphasizing that these are just the "highlights" so far and that funding is already flowing!

Devon reviewed the list of tasks for the coordinator from the December 2012 Partnership meeting. She has made progress on all of the items, and the focus of this meeting is on the last three: establishing a management structure, clarifying goals, and creating subcommittees.

## **Where We're Going** – Rusty Collins, Facilitator

Mission: Rusty asked the group if they would like to start with the draft mission statement that was sent out by Devon to get the conversation started. It was agreed that they would work on editing that statement. The initial draft read as follows:

*The South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership collaborates across jurisdictions and disciplines to protect and restore South Platte watershed lands and waterways, with an emphasis on resource efficiency, community connections and stewardship.*

Devon encouraged the group to strive for a statement that looks like the initial draft, using their own words, rather than a statement that looks like the federal mission statement which is very long and cumbersome.

After a lively and engaged discussion, the group agreed on a final mission statement which reads as follows: *The South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership collaborates across jurisdictions and disciplines to engage communities, and to protect and restore the South Platte River and Watershed.*

### Goals

The draft goals from the December 2011 Partnership meeting were displayed and discussed. After grouping the goals by keywords into a few categories, the group narrowed the goals to the following top four:

- Collaborate, educate and engage
- Connect people with water
- Protect and restore through leveraging resources
- Communicate achievements and share technical information

### Workgroups

After some thoughtful discussion, the following work groups were created. The large group then broke into these six workgroups to designate a workgroup leader and develop milestones.

- Water Quality – Data Gaps. Don Moore, Lead.
- Outreach and Education. Donny Rousch, Lead.
- Systems Mapping (Partnerships). Kaitlin Fischer, Lead.
- Geomapping. Stacey Eriksen, Lead.
- Headwaters-Urban Connection. Susan Alden Weingardt, Lead.
- SPRUWP Funding. David Howlett, Lead.

Milestones were reported by each group. The six completed worksheets showing workgroup members and milestones are attached.

## **Partner Updates**

EPA – Stacey Eriksen. Geomapping is still happening – if you have any questions, get in touch with Stacey. The web pages are coming together – make sure to let Devon know of any accomplishments or announcements that you want on our site.

City of Aurora – partnered with FEMA to construct a new bridge over Westerly Creek in partnership with the Office of Emergency Management.

Earth Day is April 20<sup>th</sup>

David Howlett – Capitol Representatives - there are 4 major projects under construction in the next 9 months along the south end of the river in Denver.

Sara Mayben – numerous fire damage restoration projects in progress.

Carol Ekarius -- Happy Meadows project received funding from 319, Park County, and others.

The South Platte was named part of the top aquatic fisheries!

Polly Hays – won the hydrologist of the year award! Congrats!

Casey Davenhill – May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup> is an Urban Waters Bike Tour. Oct 8-10 is the Watersheds conference in Avon.

Erika Shioya– Riverwatch – two trainings end of July and Oct. at [www.coloradowater.org](http://www.coloradowater.org)  
- make sure you donate to the Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund on your tax return!

Jolon Clark – Greenway Foundation – June 22-23 is the Riverfest at Confluence Park. Races, music, education, food, fun!

Susan Alden-- [www.getoutdoorscolorado.org](http://www.getoutdoorscolorado.org) – it's free to be a partner and get your link on their site!

Children's Forest Corridor – a 5 year strategic framework, connecting kids and families to nature.

Trust for Public Land – looking at several restoration projects in the Denver Metro area.

Sara Davis – Last month the NAS workshop created a research agenda. Storm water, grants go out to groups aligned with the research agenda – potential for funding – they are also releasing an urban canopy assessment.

CSFS – Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment tool is live on the website. Check it out at [coloradowildfire.org](http://coloradowildfire.org)

HUD - \$4.5 million available for projects – please participate in meetings at DRCOG. RTD is opening the new West Line soon and those meetings would be good opportunity to get word out about your projects.

NRCS – tributary and watershed – forest health and drought – will allocate \$6 million for projects.

Colorado Waterwise is having a partner meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Chatfield Watershed Authority has a new Watershed Plan – next meeting is at Ken Caryl Ranch in mid April.

Donny Rousch -- 500 Students are starting Civic Water Projects – will be partnerships between schools/waterways/rec centers in Denver

## **Next Steps**

Next meeting is in June – watch your email for details. Since most of the Partners use Outlook calendaring, Devon would like to use Outlook for future meeting notifications. Please let her know if you can't receive Outlook Invites so she can send a separate e-mail notice.

The September Partnership meeting will be hosted by the Coalition for the Upper South Platte. We will plan to go to the headwaters area for a meeting / field trip that month. There will be a tour of the burn area and discussion of river restoration projects.

**Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourned at 4pm.

**Attachments:** Polling results (separate document), attendance list and Urban Waters Partnership Workgroup Milestones sheets





## Milestones Exercise

Work Group Name: Data gaps (WATER QUALITY)

Members Names: Sarah Anderson, Don Moore, Tom Novick,  
Tracy Yager, Erika Shioya, Sarah Dominick,  
RACHEL HANSEN, John Duggan,

Work Group Leader: Don Moore

### List 3 Milestones:

- Immediate +

identify where data exists.  
what  
• CDSN  
• Parks & Wildlife

identify what  
need data for?

- Short-term (by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013) +

inventory for what  
exists?

- Long-term (beyond 2013) +

identify data gaps?  
data focuses efforts.

Next Work Group Meeting Date:



## Milestones Exercise

**Work Group Name:** Systems Mapping (Partnerships)

**Members Names:** Patsy McEntee      Cindy Lody      Emily Patterson  
Marcus Selig      Kaitlin Fischer  
Adrienne Dorsey      Tammy Allen

**Work Group Leader:**

### **List 3 Milestones:**

- **Immediate**
  - Identify partners' information = programs, funding, etc. around the 4 goals
  - Support individual org's projects
- **Short-term (by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013)**
  - Identify gaps & opportunities
- **Long-term (beyond 2013):**
  - Approach funders in order to leverage resources

**Next Work Group Meeting Date:**



## Milestones Exercise

Work Group Name: EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Members Names: JOLON, GUADALUPE, DOMNY, RICK (ADAMS CO.)

Work Group Leader:

### List 3 Milestones:

- **Immediate** - EDUCATE PARTNERSHIP ABOUT EE
  - SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERNAL SHARING
  - WAYS TO CONNECT RIGHT AWAY
- **Short-term (by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013)** - FIGURE OUT THE PARTNERSHIP'S CORE MESSAGE.
- **Long-term (beyond 2013):**

Next Work Group Meeting Date:



## Milestones Exercise

**Work Group Name:** Headwaters Urban Connections

See the river as the connector.

**Members Names:** Carol Ekarius Polly Hays Kevin Ulrie  
Susan Alden Wengardt, Boyd Byelich  
Casey Davenport Sarah Davis Shayne Brady Kate Jermay

**Work Group Leader:**

SUSAN.

**List 3 Milestones:**

- **Immediate**

→ identifying other groups activities  
projects outreach protection  
TR - to KGO.

- **Short-term (by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013)**

→ partner/leverage

- **Long-term (beyond 2013):**

Hill the River  
Forests to Forest  
outreach

**Next Work Group Meeting Date:**

7 Educator  
NSU  
supporting  
leverage



## Milestones Exercise

**Work Group Name:**

SPRUW Funding

**Members Names:**

Claire Harper Marge Price  
Amy Spinkin David Hewlett  
Dana Wilmet Mike McHugh

**Work Group Leader:**

David Hewlett Capital Representatives  
david@capitalrepresentatives.com  
(202) 433-1804 (c)  
(202) 619-6520 (c)

**List 3 Milestones:**

- **Immediate**

SPRUW Funding

- **Short-term (by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013)**

Identify current pots of \$  
public to private

- **Long-term (beyond 2013):**

Identify potential pots of \$  
and advocate for new pots of \$  
Legislation

Responsive  
to contributors  
and  
evaluate

**Next Work Group Meeting Date:**



<b>SOUTH PLATTE RIVER URBAN WATERS PARTNERSHIP MEETING - March 28, 2013</b>			
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>28-Mar-13</b>	<b>Workgroup</b>
<b>Trust for Public Lands</b>	<b>Emily Patterson</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>
<b>Greenway Foundation</b>	<b>Jeff Shoemaker</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Greenway Foundation</b>	<b>Jolon Clark</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Outreach &amp; Engagement</b>
<b>Greenway Foundation, Capitol Representatives</b>	<b>Marge Price</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SPRUWP Funding</b>
<b>Greenway Foundation, Capitol Representatives</b>	<b>David Howlett</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SPRUWP Funding</b>
<b>Groundwork Denver</b>	<b>Rachel Hansgen</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Coalition for the Upper S Platte</b>	<b>Carol Ekarius</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters-Urban Connections</b>
<b>National Forest Foundation</b>	<b>Marcus F. Selig</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>
<b>Colorado Watershed Assembly</b>	<b>Casey Davenhill</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>
<b>Earth Force</b>	<b>Donny Roush</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Outreach &amp; Engagement</b>
<b>Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership</b>	<b>Katherine Kramer</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority and Upper Clear Creek Watershed Assn.</b>	<b>Katie Fendel</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Chatfield Watershed Authority</b>	<b>Kevin Urie</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>
<b>Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir Watershed Association</b>	<b>Amy Conklin</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SWRUWP Funding</b>
<b>Adams County</b>	<b>Adrienne Dorsey</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>

<b>Adams County Parks &amp; Open Space</b>	<b>Rick Anderson</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>City and County of Denver, Department of Environmental Health</b>	<b>Jon Novick</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Water Quality - Data Gaps</b>
<b>City and County of Denver, Department of Environmental Health</b>	<b>Dave Wilmoth</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SWRUWP Funding</b>
<b>City and County of Denver, Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>Sara Davis</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>
<b>City and County of Denver</b>	<b>Sarah Anderson</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>City of Aurora</b>	<b>Mike McHugh</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SWRUWP Funding</b>
<b>City of Aurora</b>	<b>Melissa Toering</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Geomapping</b>
<b>Urban Drainage and Flood Control District</b>	<b>Ken MacKenzie</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Denver Water</b>	<b>Sarah Dominick</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Water Quality - Data Gaps</b>
<b>Colorado Department of Public Health &amp; Environment</b>	<b>Tammy Allen</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>
<b>Colorado Department of Public Health &amp; Environment</b>	<b>John Duggan</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Water Quality - Data Gaps</b>
<b>Colorado State Forest Service</b>	<b>Keith Wood</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Colorado State Forest Service</b>	<b>Joe Duda</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>National Parks Service</b>	<b>Patsy McEntee</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>
<b>US Geological Survey</b>	<b>Tracy Yager</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Water Quality - Data Gaps</b>
<b>Natural Resources Conservation Service</b>	<b>Boyd Byelich</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>
<b>Natural Resources Conservation Service, Jefferson Conservation District</b>	<b>Kaitlin Fischer</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>
<b>Natural Resources Conservation Service, Jefferson Conservation District</b>	<b>Don Moore</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Water Quality - Data Gaps</b>
<b>Natural Resources Conservation Service, Jefferson Conservation District</b>	<b>Brian Devine</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Geomapping</b>
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b>	<b>Guadalupe Herrera</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Outreach &amp; Engagement</b>
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b>	<b>Shayne Brady</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>
<b>US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region</b>	<b>Polly Hays</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>

<b>US Forest Service Region 2, State and Private Forests</b>	<b>Claire Harper</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SWRUWP Funding</b>
<b>US Forest Service, Pike &amp; San Isabel National Forests</b>	<b>Sara Mayben</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>US Forest Service, Region 2, External Affairs</b>	<b>Susan Alden</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Headwaters - Urban Connections</b>
<b>US Environmental Protection Agency, Watersheds, Brownfields</b>	<b>Stacey Eriksen</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Geomapping</b>
<b>US Environmental Protection Agency</b>	<b>Cindy Cody</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Systems Mapping - Partnerships</b>
<b>Colorado Watershed Assembly</b>	<b>Erika Shioya</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Water Quality - Data Gaps</b>